

Claims

1. Apparatus for distribution of a streamed signal within a group of users in a computer network, the users accessing client terminals (10, 20, 30, 40) for participation in a multicast session, the apparatus comprising,

connecting links (12, 22, 32, 42) adapted to connect the client terminals of users and related equipment, such as capturing means (16, 26...; 18, 28...), to the multicast session, preferably via the Internet or other interconnecting network,

an extension header being added to data packets of the streamed signal, the extension header comprising identification data relating to the intended recipient of a packet,

characterised in that

a filtering means (14, 24, 34, 44) associated with the receiving client is adapted to filter out data packets comprising identification data in the extension header identifying the recipient and receiving the streamed signal.

2. Apparatus for distribution of a streamed signal according to claim 1, **characterised in that**

the transmitted signal is encoded by the sending client terminal and decoded by the intended recipient only at the receiving client terminal by means of a separately provided decryption key.

3. Method for distributing a streamed signal via the Internet or other interconnecting network within a group of users in a computer network, the users accessing client terminals (10, 20, 30, 40) for participation in a multicast session, the method comprising the steps of,

adding an extension header to data packets of the streamed signal, the extension header identifying the intended recipient of a packet,

characterised by

filtering out data packets comprising identification data in the extension header identifying the recipient and allowing them to pass through a filtering

means (14, 24, 34, 44), which is associated with the receiving client.

- 5 4. Computer program product for distributing a streamed signal within a group of users in a computer network, the computer program product being integrated and transmissible between comprised units according to claims 1-2, and the computer program product being adapted for carrying out the method steps of claim 3.